

## BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Serial No.: 10/632,491

Art Unit: 1732

Claims

The following is a copy of Applicant's claims that identifies language being added with underlining ("\_\_\_") and language being deleted with strikethrough ("—"), as is applicable:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for forming a masonry unit, said method comprising the steps of:  
  
    ~~raising~~ joining a pallet to a bottom surface of a mold;  
  
    inserting a filler plug into the side of the mold between a partition plate and a pallet;  
  
    dispensing mix into the mold; and  
  
    compressing the mix with a shoe; and to  
  
    responsive to the compressing, form forming a masonry unit with a filler plug effect.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further including the step of removing the filler plug.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, further including the step of stripping the architectural concrete masonry unit from the mold by lowering the pallet.
4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of forming includes forming filler plug effect is a bottom bevel in the masonry unit.
5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of forming includes forming filler plug effect is a mortar buffer surface in the masonry unit.

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6. (Cancelled)
7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of forming further including includes forming an angle of inclination between a front surface and opposing side surfaces, a top surface, and a bottom surface of the masonry unit by compressing the mix with the shoe against opposing side gussets, and the filler plug, and the shoe.
8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein the compressing the mix with the shoe against opposing side gussets and the filler plug includes compressing the mix with an angular surface of the shoe against an angular surface of the opposing side gussets, and an angular surface of the filler plug, and the shoe are configured with angled surfaces that form an the angle of inclination between a front surface and opposing side surfaces, a top surface, and a bottom surface of the masonry unit.
9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein the compressing the mix with an angular surface of the shoe against an angular surface of the opposing side gussets and an angular surface of the filler plug includes compressing the mix with the shoe against the angled surface of the filler plug includes an angle of approximately 30 degrees angled surface of the filler plug, the 30 degree angled surface referenced from between a bottom surface of the filler plug and the angled surface.
10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein compressing the mix with an angular surface of the shoe against an angular surface of the opposing side gussets and an angular

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~~surface of the filler plug includes compressing the mix with the shoe against the angled surface of the filler plug includes an angled surface of the filler plug having in an angular range of approximately 10-60 degrees, the range referenced between from a bottom surface of the filler plug and the angled surface.~~

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein compressing the mix with an angular surface of the shoe against an angular surface of the opposing side gussets and an angular surface of the filler plug includes compressing the mix with the shoe against the an angled surface of the filler plug includes has having a width of approximately 7/32 inch.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein compressing the mix with an angular surface of the shoe against an angular surface of the opposing side gussets and an angular surface of the filler plug includes compressing the mix with the shoe against the an angled surface of the filler plug has having a width in the range of approximately 1/16 inch - 1/2 inch.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein compressing the mix with an angular surface of the shoe against an angular surface of the opposing side gussets and an angular surface of the filler plug includes compressing the mix with an angular surface of the shoe having the angled surface of the shoe includes an angle of approximately 150 degrees between a bottom surface of the shoe and the angled surface.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein compressing the mix with an angular surface of the shoe against an angular surface of the opposing side gussets and an angular

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~~surface of the filler plug includes compressing the mix with an angular surface of the shoe having the angled surface of the shoe includes~~ an angle in a range of approximately 120 – 170 degrees between a bottom surface of the shoe and the angled surface.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein compressing the mix with an angular surface of the shoe against an angular surface of the opposing side gussets and an angular surface of the filler plug includes compressing the mix with an angular surface of the shoe having the angled surface of the shoe includes a width in the range of approximately 1/16 inch – ½ inch.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein compressing the mix with an angular surface of the shoe against an angular surface of the opposing side gussets and an angular surface of the filler plug includes compressing the mix with an angular surface of the shoe having the angled surface of the shoe includes a width of approximately 7/32 inch.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein compressing the mix with an angular surface of the shoe against an angular surface of the opposing side gussets and an angular surface of the filler plug includes compressing the mix with the shoe against the angled surface of the opposing side gussets include having an angle of approximately 150 degrees between a partition plate in contact with the opposing side gussets and the angled surface of the opposing side gussets.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein compressing the mix with an angular surface of the shoe against an angular surface of the opposing side gussets and an angular

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surface of the filler plug includes compressing the mix with the shoe against the angled surface of the opposing side gussets include having an angle in a range of approximately 120 – 170 degrees between a partition plate in contact with the opposing side gussets and the angled surface of the opposing side gussets.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein compressing the mix with an angular surface of the shoe against an angular surface of the opposing side gussets and an angular surface of the filler plug includes compressing the mix with the shoe against the angled surface of the opposing side gussets has having a width in the range of approximately 1/16 inch – 1/2 inch.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein compressing the mix with an angular surface of the shoe against an angular surface of the opposing side gussets and an angular surface of the filler plug includes compressing the mix with the shoe against the angled surface of the opposing side gussets has having a width of approximately 7/32 inch.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of inserting a filler plug includes the step of inserting a plurality of filler plugs substantially simultaneously.

23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further including forming a bottom corner bevel in at least one of a segmented retaining wall block, a concrete masonry unit, and an architectural concrete masonry unit by using wherein the filler plug is further configured with a

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~~"T" portion of the filler plug, the "T" portion that includes having a beveled surface to form a bottom corner bevel in at least one of a segmented retaining wall block, a concrete masonry unit, and an architectural concrete masonry unit.~~

24. (Newly Added) A method for forming masonry units, said method comprising the steps of:

raising a pallet to contact a bottom surface of a mold having gussets connected to internal surfaces of the mold;

inserting a plurality of filler plugs substantially simultaneously into the side of the mold

between a plurality of partition plates and the pallet;

dispensing mix into the mold;

compressing the mix with a shoe; and

responsive to the compressing, forming a plurality of masonry units with beveled-edge surfaces, each masonry unit having a beveled-edge surface joining a front surface to a top surface, a bottom surface, and side surfaces.